

CLUBFED TALKING POINTS  
FOR  
STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD WORKSHOP  
JUNE 14TH, 1994

After the introduction, and directly beneath each of the 4 key issues identified in the SWRCB notice for the June workshop is the pertinent "● TALKING POINT(S)" written as a Concise Narrative.

**INTRODUCTION OF CLUBFED FOLKS, THEN NOTE THAT CLUBFED HAS PARTICIPATED IN EACH OF THE BOARD'S WORKSHOPS, IS VERY INTERESTED IN THESE PROCEEDINGS, & HAS MAINTAINED AN OBSERVER IN THE AUDIENCE THROUGHOUT THE DAY.**

1. What factors, excluding diversions, contribute to the decline of fish and wildlife resources in the Bay/Delta Estuary ?
  - ***WATER QUALITY, EXOTIC SPECIES, AND HABITAT MODIFICATION ARE OTHER FACTORS THAT HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO ADVERSELY EFFECT FISH AND WILDLIFE RESOURCES IN THE ESTUARY.***
  - ***CONTAMINANTS DERIVED FROM BOTH NATURAL SOURCES AND DOMESTIC ACTIVITIES HAVE HAD ADVERSE IMPACTS TO THE BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES IN A NUMBER OF LOCATIONS INCLUDING THE ESTUARY.***
    - ***NATURAL SOURCES INCLUDES SOILS THAT ARE NATURALLY LADEN WITH RELATIVELY HIGH LEVELS OF ELEMENTS SUCH AS COPPER, ZINC, SELENIUM, AND BORON TO NAME A FEW. SEDIMENTS FROM THESE SOILS ARE TRANSPORTED TO THE ESTUARY VIA OVERLAND FLOW.***
    - ***DOMESTIC ACTIVITIES WITH DETRIMENTAL AFFECTS INCLUDE UNTREATED URBAN RUNOFF CONTAINING HYDROCARBONS, TREATMENT PLANT EFFLUENT, INDUSTRIAL DISCHARGES, AND AGRICULTURAL DRAINAGE CONTAINING ELEVATED LEVELS OF PESTICIDES, HERBICIDES, & FERTILIZERS.***
  - ***EXOTIC SPECIES THAT HAVE BEEN INTRODUCED BOTH KNOWINGLY & ACCIDENTALLY HAVE HAD ADVERSE AFFECTS ON SPECIES FOOD CHAIN AND HABITAT.***
    - ***SEVERAL EXOTICS ARE KNOWN TO PREY UPON THE NATIVE FISHERY.***
    - ***ALSO, EXOTICS SUCH AS THE ASIATIC CLAM ARE KNOWN FOR THEIR CAPABILITY TO STRIP THE BIO-MASS OUT OF A WATER COLUMN IN SHORT ORDER.***
  - ***HABITAT MODIFICATIONS RELATED TO VARIOUS CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES MAY ALSO HAVE ADVERSE EFFECTS ON ESTUARINE SPECIES.***
    - ***LEEVE CONSTRUCTION AND DREDGING HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO MODIFY HABITAT COMPLEXITY AND DIVERSITY THROUGH LOSS OF SHALLOW WATER HABITATS, VEGETATION, AND REDUCED RIPARIAN SHADED AQUATIC HABITAT.***

2. What modifications have the SWP and CVP made to their operations to protect endangered species and other species of concern ?  
\*The Workshop announcement noted three issues under this category 1) operational changes; 2) water supply impacts; 3) effects on targeted species.\*

● **CVP/SWP OPERATIONAL CAPABILITIES ARE CONSTRAINED BY THE WINTER-RUN AND DELTA SMELT BIOLOGICAL OPINIONS. THE MAJOR CONSTRAINTS INCLUDE:**

- **STORAGE LIMITATIONS FOR TEMPERATURE CONTROL.**
- **TRANSPORT & HABITAT FLOWS.**
- **EXPORT CURTAILMENTS.**
- **TAKE LIMITATIONS.**

● **CVP/SWP WATER SUPPLIES SOUTH OF THE DELTA HAVE EXPERIENCED REDUCTIONS IN SUPPLY DUE IN PART TO THESE OPERATIONAL CONSTRAINTS.**

● **WE BELIEVE THAT SEVERAL OF THE MEASURES REQUIRED BY THE BIOLOGICAL OPINIONS HAVE BEEN BENEFICIAL TO THE TARGETED SPECIES, THROUGH IMPROVED HABITAT CONDITIONS, AND REDUCED LEVELS OF ENTRAINMENT; HOWEVER TO BETTER UNDERSTAND THE EFFECTS ON TARGETED SPECIES, WE CONTINUE TO EXPLORE IMPROVEMENTS TO MONITORING TECHNIQUES AND ALTERNATIVE METHODS TO MINIMIZE ADVERSE IMPACTS ON ALL BENEFICIAL USES.**

3. What effect do upstream water projects other than CVP and SWP, have on the fish and wildlife resources of the Bay/Delta Estuary ?

● **ALTHOUGH THE MAGNITUDE MAY VARY, UPSTREAM WATER PROJECTS HAVE AN EFFECT ON THE BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES ANALOGOUS TO THAT OF THE CVP/SWP, SUCH AS ENTRAINMENT, AND HABITAT MODIFICATION**

● **PROJECT OPERATIONS BOTH UPSTREAM & WITH-IN THE ESTUARY NEED TO CONTRIBUTE THEIR EQUITABLE SHARE TO RESOLVE DELTA PROBLEMS IN A BALANCED & REASONABLE MANNER.**

4. What are the status and trends of biological resources in the Bay/Delta Estuary ?

● **GENERAL TREND FOR NATIVE ANADROMOUS SPECIES, AND RESIDENT NATIVE FISH ARE DECLINING, AND TRENDS OF EXOTIC SPECIES SUCH AS THE ASIATIC CLAM HAVE PROLIFERATED.**

IN-SUMMARY:

- CLUBFED SUPPORTS THE BOARDS EFFORTS IN THESE PROCEEDINGS TO CONSIDER FACTORS BEYOND FRESH FLOWS & DIVERSIONS SUCH AS DRAINAGE & EXOTIC SPECIES, THAT REQUIRE SPECIAL MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES NECESSARY FOR THE RESTORATION OF BAY/DELTA RESOURCES.
- STANDARDS THAT RECOGNIZE CVP/SWP LIMITATIONS AND INCORPORATE FLEXIBLE OPTIONS ARE A NECESSITY TO MAXIMIZING BENEFITS TO COMPETING NEEDS.
- PROJECT OPERATIONS AND PRACTICES BOTH UPSTREAM AND WITH-IN THE DELTA NEED TO CONTRIBUTE THEIR EQUITABLE SHARE TO RESOLVE DELTA PROBLEMS IN A BALANCED & REASONABLE MANNER.
- CVPIA IDENTIFIES SEVERAL NON-FLOW MEASURES TO IMPROVE CONDITIONS FOR FISHERY RESOURCES, SUCH AS THE SHASTA TEMPERATURE CONTROL DEVICE, SPAWNING GRAVEL REPLENISHMENT, AND STRATEGICALLY LOCATED BARRIERS, WHICH SHOULD BE CONSIDERED IN THE BOARDS DELIBERATIONS.
- DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF A COMPREHENSIVE ECOSYSTEM PLAN IS REQUIRED TO ADDRESS LONG-STANDING BAY/DELTA ISSUES.
- AN ECOSYSTEM PLAN IS AN APPROACH THAT EMULATES NATURAL OCCURRENCES SUCH THAT NATURE AND MAN MUTUALLY PROSPER.



National Marine Fishery Service  
501 West Ocean Boulevard, Suite 4200  
Long Beach CA 90802



Bureau of Reclamation  
Fish and Wildlife Service  
2800 Cottage Way  
Sacramento CA 95825-1898



Environmental Protection Agency  
75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco CA 94105



California Resources Agency  
1416 9th Street  
CAL Environmental Protection Agency  
555 Capitol Mall  
Sacramento CA 95814

# PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 30, 1994

**CALIFORNIA, FEDERAL OFFICIALS**  
**SIGN FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT ON BAY-DELTA;**  
**INFORMATIONAL MEETINGS SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 19**

State and Federal officials have signed an agreement on a process designed to provide more reliable water supplies for California and to protect natural resources in the Bay-Delta ecosystem. Informational meetings are scheduled to briefly explain the Framework Agreement and to discuss the process for long-term planning.

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19**

In Los Angeles

10 a.m. at the Doubletree Hotel, Los Angeles Airport  
5400 West Century Boulevard

In Sacramento

3:30 p.m. at the Sacramento Inn  
1401 Arden Way

The Framework Agreement creates a structure for State and Federal officials to meet regularly and coordinate regulatory and resource decisions. Highlights of the agreement include:

\* The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency will adopt final Federal water quality standards. The State, in cooperation with Federal agencies, will develop a water quality control plan that meets both Federal and State requirements. When U.S. EPA has approved the State's plan, the agency will initiate a process to withdraw the Federal standards.

\* After the water quality standards are adopted, the State Water Resources Control Board will initiate water right proceedings to allocate responsibilities for meeting the standards.

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\* The agencies will develop a long-term strategy for resolving fish and wildlife issues, water supply reliability, levee stability, and water quality problems in the Bay-Delta estuary.

\* The public will have a central role in development of long-term strategies. A committee of citizen advisors, representing a wide spectrum of interests will be created to provide input.

\* The agreement calls for a comprehensive ecosystem approach to solving issues in the Bay-Delta which will include endangered species as well as other important natural resource values.

The State and Federal agencies are now focusing, in a coordinated way, on the technical and procedural aspects of setting water quality standards, the process of improving coordination of water operations to meet endangered species needs, and the development of long-term solutions to Bay-Delta issues.

The informational meetings on September 19 will feature presentations and discussions on developing a long-term strategy as well as a short overview of aspects of the Framework Agreement. Part of the meeting will be devoted to gathering input on how best to make the process work.

Contacts:	Jeff McCracken Bureau of Reclamation 916/978-4919	Lois Grunwald U.S. EPA 415/744-1588
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David Klinger Fish and Wildlife Service 503/231-6121	Scott Smullen National Marine Fisheries Service 301/713-2370
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Andy McLeod  
State Resources Agency  
916/653-5656

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